MangaBox

Le Vin, Wine Burglar

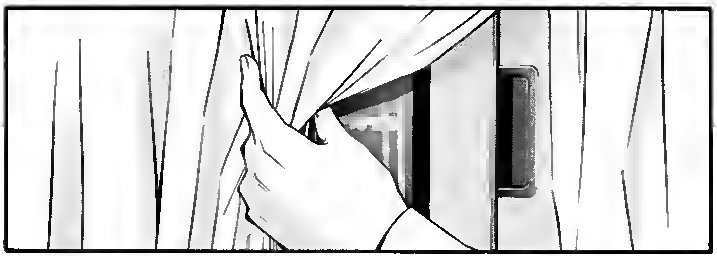
STORY

THE GROUP OF THIEVES CALLED "LE VIN, WINE BURGLARS" ARE AFTER ONE OF ONLY TWO BOTTLES OF A COSMIC WINE. THE 1975 CHATEAU LYNCH BAGES THEIR OPERATION TAKES PLACE AT A PUBLIC PARTY ON A LUXURY OCEAN LINER. WHAT IS THEIR SHOCKING SECRET PLAN TO STEAL THIS JEWEL OF A WINE?

MISSION 3 - THE WITCH'S KISS

WRITER/TADASHI AGI ARTIST/SHUU OKIMOTO

THIS STORY IS FICTIONAL AND COMPLETELY UNRELATED TO REAL PEOPLE, GROUPS, OR EVENTS.



THE PLAN CONTINUES!!

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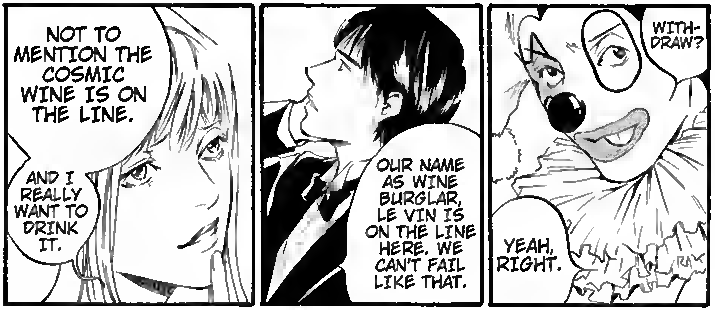
YKS SERVICES LLC / SKY JAPAN Inc

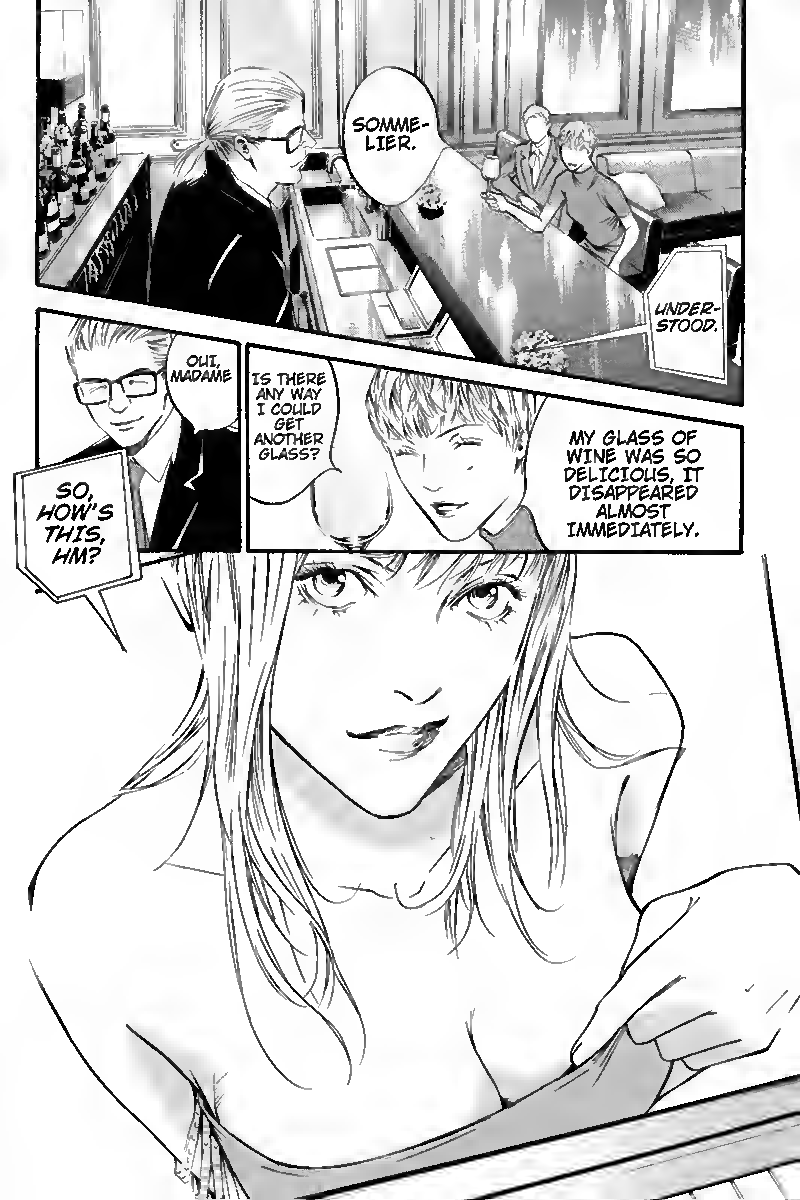
LATOUR, IS THE "BREAD" BEING BAKED WELL?
THIS IS HAUT BRION.
OUI, HAUT BRION.
IT LOOKS LIKE IT'S GOING TO BE DELI-CIOUS.
NOW THEN, TEAM.
AND WE CANNOT DEPEND ON A TRIAL AND ERROR TO DO THIS.
WE MUST TAKE THE TARGET FROM BENEATH THE EYES...
...OF NOT ONLY THE INVITED GUESTS, BUT ALSO TROUS-SIER'S MEN.

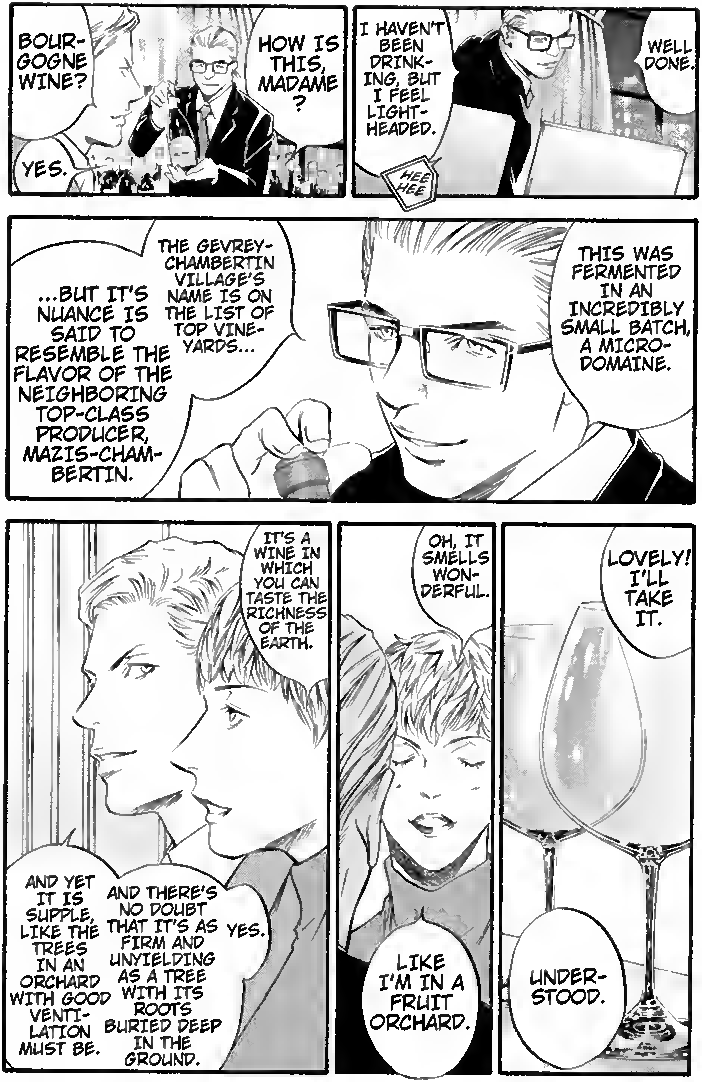
IF WE FAIL THRICE, WE HAVE TO WITH-DRAW.
WE HAVE THREE CHANCES TO ENACT OUR PLAN.

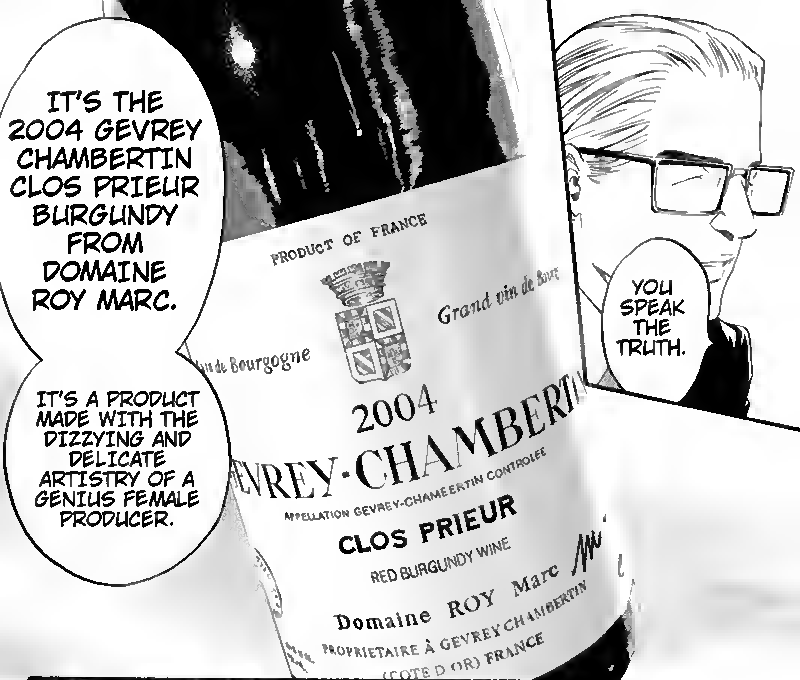

NOT TO MENTION THE COSMIC WINE IS ON THE LINE.
AND I REALLY WANT TO DRINK IT.
OUR NAME AS WINE BURGLAR, LE VIN IS ON THE LINE HERE. WE CAN'T FAIL LIKE THAT.
WITH-DRAW?
YEAH, RIGHT.

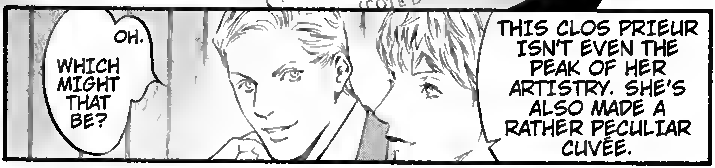
THE LATEST STYLE OF BREAD OVENS BAKE THINGS VERY QUICKLY, AND VERY WELL.
MY PREPARA-TIONS ARE NEARLY FINISHED.

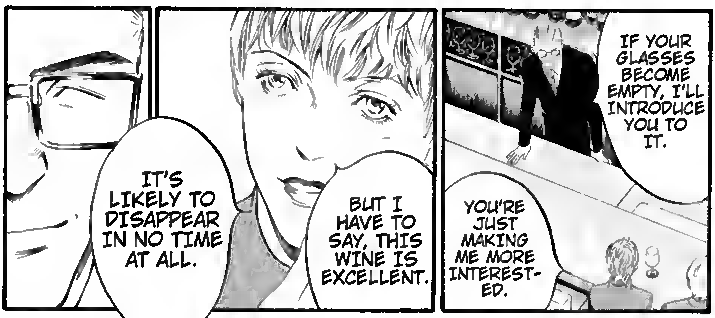
WELL, THEN. FIRST IS WHERE PRINCESS MARGOT...
... SHOWS OFF HER MANY CHARMS


SOMME-
LIER.
UNDER-
STOOD.
OUI,
MADAME
IS THERE
ANY WAY
I COULD
GET
ANOTHER
GLASS?
MY GLASS OF
WINE WAS SO
DELICIOUS, IT
DISAPPEARED
ALMOST
IMMEDIATELY.
SO,
HOW'S
THIS,
HM?

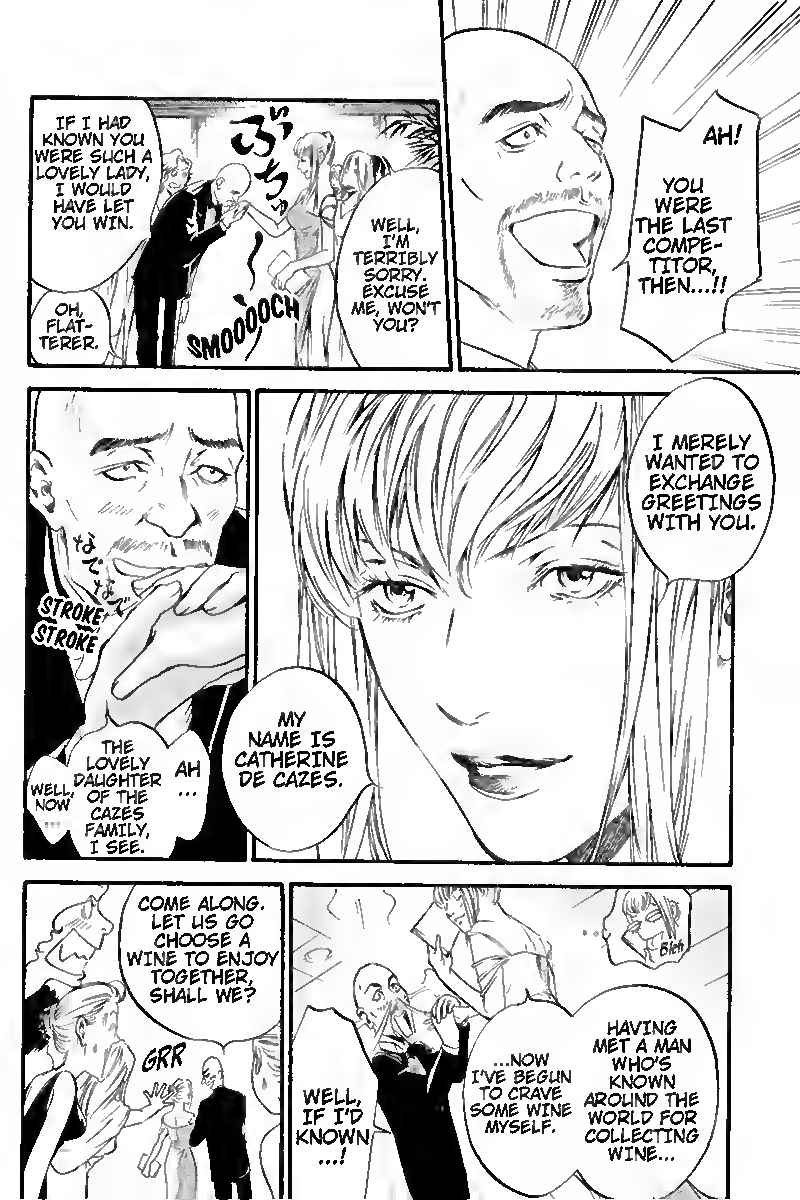

BOURGOGNE WINE?
YES.
HOW IS THIS, MADAME?
I HAVEN'T BEEN DRINKING, BUT I FEEL LIGHTHEADED.
HEE HEE
WELL DONE.
THIS WAS FERMENTED IN AN INCREDIBLY SMALL BATCH, A MICRO-DOMAINE.
THE GEVREY-CHAMBERTIN VILLAGE'S NAME IS ON THE LIST OF TOP VINEYARDS...
...BUT IT'S NUANCE IS SAID TO RESEMBLE THE FLAVOR OF THE NEIGHBORING TOP-CLASS PRODUCER, MAZIS-CHAMBERTIN.
IT'S A WINE IN WHICH YOU CAN TASTE THE RICHNESS OF THE EARTH.
YES.
AND THERE'S NO DOUBT THAT IT'S AS FIRM AND UNYIELDING AS A TREE WITH ITS ROOTS BURIED DEEP IN THE GROUND.
AND YET IT IS SUPPLE, LIKE THE TREES IN AN ORCHARD WITH GOOD VENTILATION MUST BE.
OH, IT SMELLS WONDERFUL.
LIKE I'M IN A FRUIT ORCHARD.
LOVELY! I'LL TAKE IT.
UNDERSTOOD.


IT'S THE 2004 GEVREY CHAMBERTIN CLOS PRIEUR BURGUNDY FROM DOMAINE ROY MARC.
IT'S A PRODUCT MADE WITH THE DIZZYING AND DELICATE ARTISTRY OF A GENIUS FEMALE PRODUCER.
PRODUCT OF FRANCE
Grand vin de Bourgogne
2004
APPELLATION GEVREY-CHAMBERTIN CONTROLEE
CLOS PRIEUR
RED BURGUNDY WINE
Domaine ROY Marc
PROPRIETAIRE À GEVREY CHAMBERTIN
YOU SPEAK THE TRUTH.


OH. WHICH MIGHT THAT BE?
THIS CLOS PRIEUR ISN'T EVEN THE PEAK OF HER ARTISTRY. SHE'S ALSO MADE A RATHER PECULIAR CUVÉE.


IT'S LIKELY TO DISAPPEAR IN NO TIME AT ALL.
BUT I HAVE TO SAY, THIS WINE IS EXCELLENT.
IF YOUR GLASSES BECOME EMPTY, I'LL INTRODUCE YOU TO IT.
YOU'RE JUST MAKING ME MORE INTEREST-ED.

ARE YOU NOT MONSIEUR RAHMAN?
PWIP
UHH... YES, I'M... I'M RAH-MAN...
HAVE YOU FOR-GOTTEN ME?
IT WAS AT A LONDON WINE AUCTION.
THERE WAS A 1985 ROMANÉE-CONTI ON THE AUCTION BLOCK, REMEM-BER?
AT THE END OF IT, IT WAS JUST YOU AND I FIGHTING OVER IT, MONSIEUR RAHMAN.
WHO... WHO MIGHT YOU BE?


AH!
YOU WERE THE LAST COMPE-TITOR, THEN...!!
WELL, I'M TERRIBLY SORRY. EXCUSE ME, WON'T YOU?
SMOOOOCH
IF I HAD KNOWN YOU WERE SUCH A LOVELY LADY, I WOULD HAVE LET YOU WIN.
OH, FLAT-TERER.
I MERELY WANTED TO EXCHANGE GREETINGS WITH YOU.
MY NAME IS CATHERINE DE CAZES.
AH ...
THE LOVELY DAUGHTER OF THE CAZES FAMILY, I SEE.
WELL, NOW ...
STROKE STROKE
...
Bleh
HAVING MET A MAN WHO'S KNOWN AROUND THE WORLD FOR COLLECTING WINE...
...NOW I'VE BEGUN TO CRAVE SOME WINE MYSELF.
WELL, IF I'D KNOWN ...!
COME ALONG. LET US GO CHOOSE A WINE TO ENJOY TOGETHER, SHALL WE?
GRR

MY GOODNESS, WHAT A LOVELY SUITE!!
THERE'S A WINE CELLAR AS WELL, ISN'T THERE?
INDEED ALL DUE TO MONSIEUR TROUSSIER'S KINDNESS.
KNOWING THAT I WAS A WINE ENTHUSIAST...
...HE GAVE ME A ROOM WITH AN ATTACHED WINE CELLAR.
MADAME CAZES? WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO DRINK,
WHY DON'T WE START WITH CHAMPAGNE.
AH, YES, YES.
...
WELL DONE, MARGOT.

MAKE SURE IT'S AS UNOBTRUSIVE AND INVISIBLE AS POSSIBLE.
THIS IS THE REAL FIGHT.
OUI.

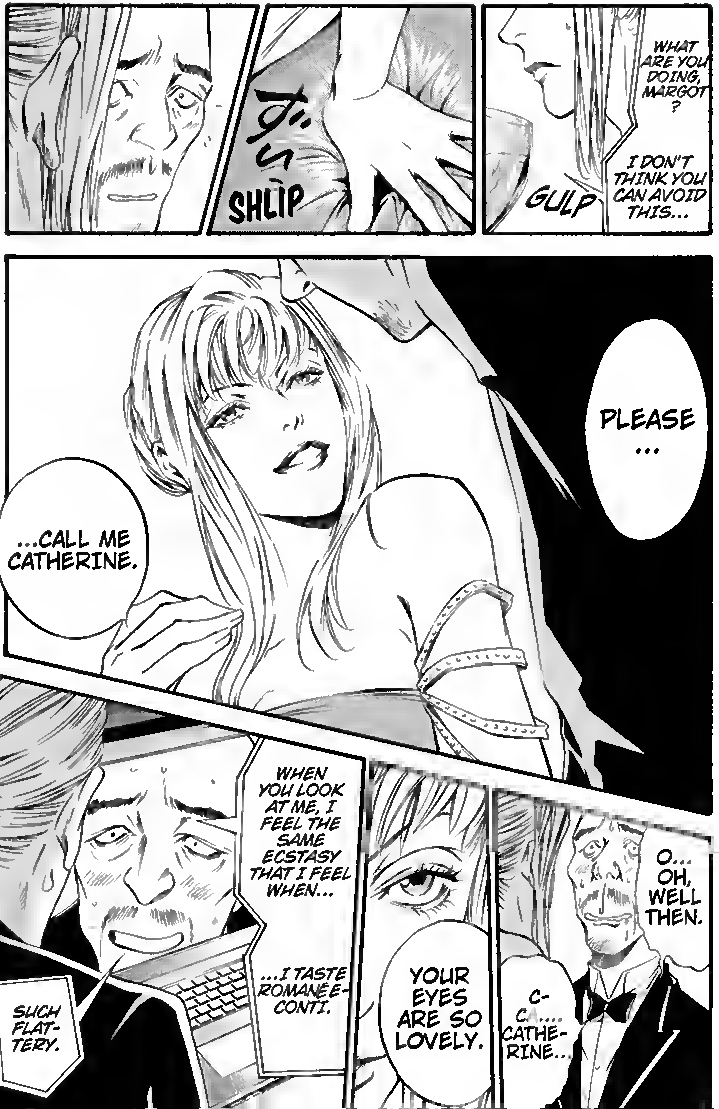
OF COURSE!
I DIDN'T ASK YOU WHAT YOUR PREFERENCE WAS!
WHAT?
OH, YES!
HOW ABOUT A ROSÉ? BLANC DU BLANC, PERHAPS?

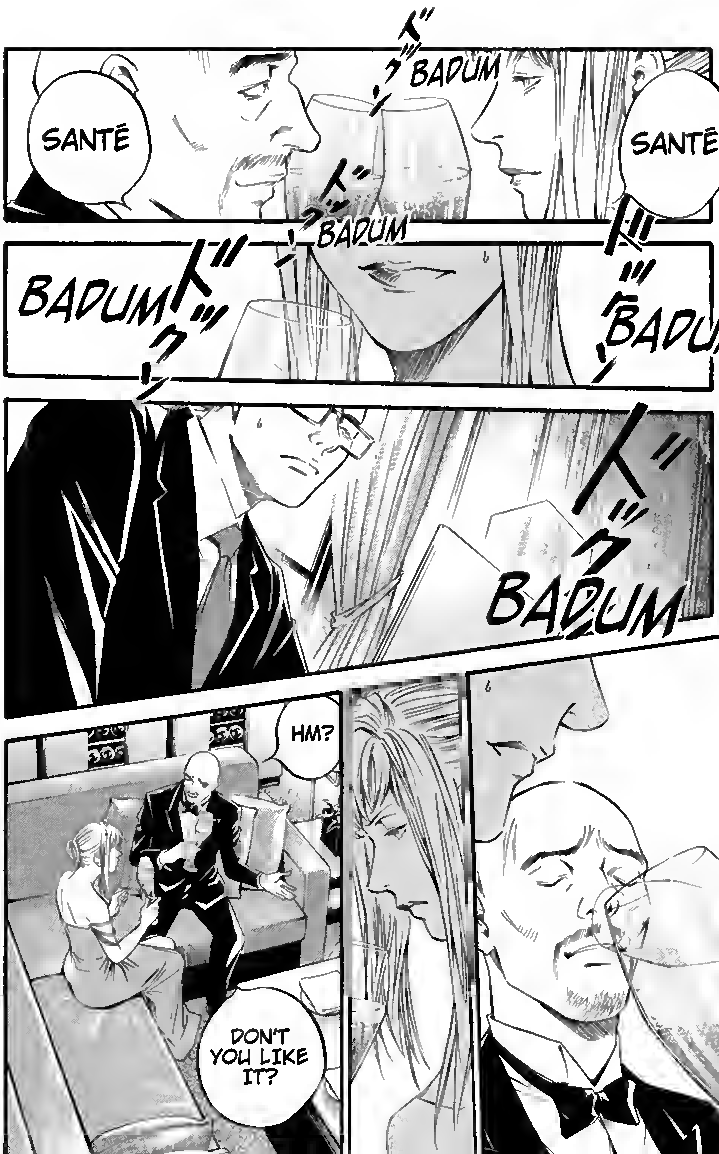
NOW, WHAT ABOUT THIS ONE, THE CHAMPAGNE ITSELF IS LOVELY, AND SO IS THE BOTTLE...
DON'T TURN AROUND SO FAST!
THAT WAS CLOSE.
I THOUGHT YOU WOULD SAY THAT.
HMM... A ROSÉ SOUNDS GOOD.
IF YOU GET CAUGHT, IT'S OVER. PLEASE BE CAREFUL.
THAT SCARED ME, MARGOT.
NOW... I HAVE TO PULL THE CORK.
SHK
SHK
SHK
PLEASE, USE THIS!
FWIP
SHF

TNK
THANK YOU.
IT'S VERY WELL-CHILLED, THOUGH, SO IT PROBABLY WON'T SPRAY.
IT WENT WELL!
THAT WENT WELL, MARGOT.
YES...
IT DID INDEED.

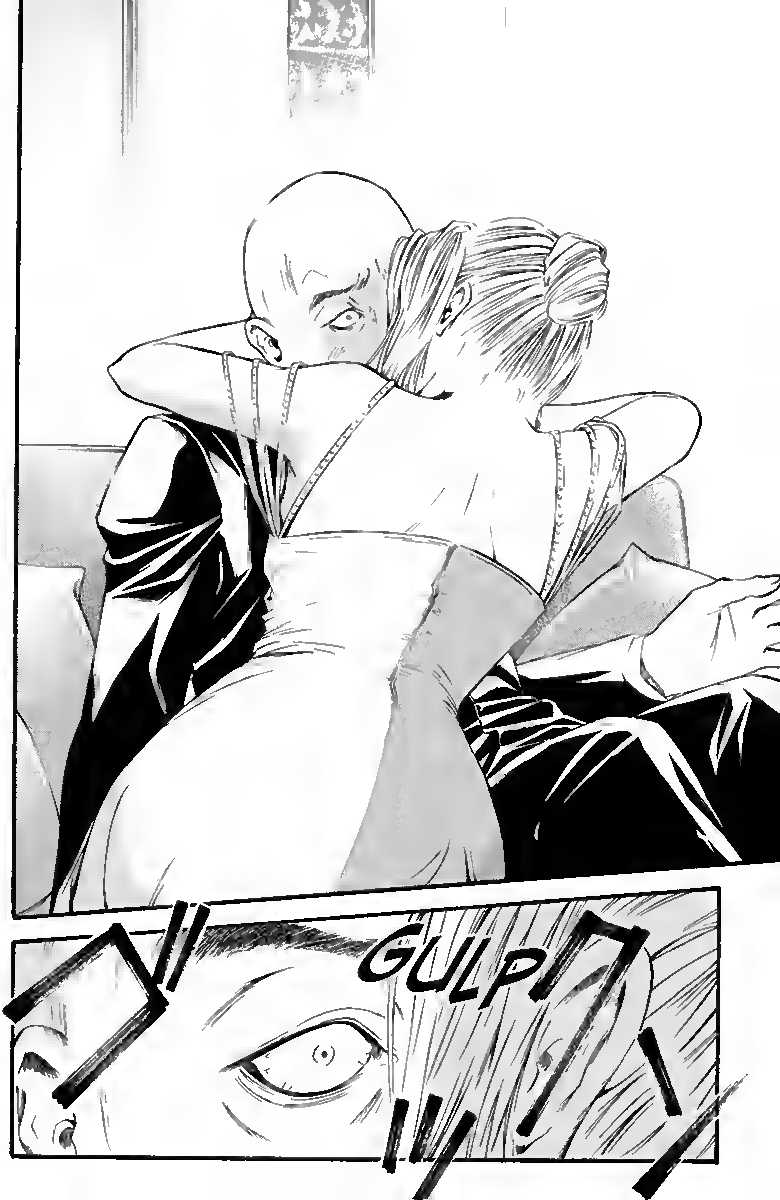
DO YOU KNOW THIS WINE, MADAME?
CELEBRITIES ALL OVER THE WORLD LUST FOR THE SHIMMER OF THIS CHAMPAGNE.
OH, HOW LOVELY.
THE BOTTLE ITSELF IS LIKE ART, ISN'T IT?
THE WINE INSIDE IS ALSO QUITE ARTISTIC. IT'S WON AN AWARD FOR ITS QUALITY.
IT'S THE ARMAND DE BRIGNAC ROSÉ NV.
GO AHEAD.
HM?
THE BUBBLES IN MY GLASS ARE MUCH MORE LOVELY.
HERE, YOU OUGHT TO HAVE IT.
HUH?!

I FEEL THAT THE AMOUNT OF BUBBLES IN THE CHAMPAGNE IS ONE OF ITS MOST IMPORTANT CHARMS.
AH HA HA HA
HM ? IS SOME-THING THE MATTER ?
N... NO! AHAHA-HA.
THESE BUBBLES ARE THE SORT YOU MUST REALLY ENJOY GAZING UPON.
YES ...
THOUGH IF YOU GAZE TOO LONG, YOU'LL PROBABLY GET DIZZY.
THIS IS BAD. IF YOU FALL ASLEEP, WE HAVE NO ONE ELSE!
IT REALLY IS... SUR-PRIS-INGLY BUBBLY.
IT CER-TAINLY IS!!
BECAUSE OF THE SLEEPING POWDER I PUT IN IT A HA HA
BUT THE SPARKLE OF THE BUBBLES IS NOTHING COMPARED TO YOUR BEAUTY...
...MA-DAME CAZES.
I HAVE TO DO SOME-THING. SOME-THING...


SHLIP
GULP
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, MARGOT?
I DON'T THINK YOU CAN AVOID THIS...
PLEASE...
...CALL ME CATHERINE.
O... OH, WELL THEN.
C-C.... CATHERINE...
YOUR EYES ARE SO LOVELY.
WHEN YOU LOOK AT ME, I FEEL THE SAME ECSTASY THAT I FEEL WHEN...
...I TASTE ROMANÉE-CONTI.
SUCH FLATTERY.


SANTÉ
BADUM
BADUM
SANTÉ
BADUM
BADUM
BADUM
BADUM
HM?
DON'T YOU LIKE IT?

THAT'S NOT IT.
IT SMELLS SO LOVELY THAT I WAS ENRAPTURED FOR A MOMENT.
PLEASE, DRINK IT.
YOU'LL FIND WHEN YOU DRINK IT THAT ITS LOVELY SCENT IS ONLY THE SUPPORTING ACTOR TO ITS FLAVOR.
I SEE. THEN HERE I GO.
SHE... SHE DRANK IT!
....
!


GULP

CA... CATHE-RINE ....!!
I FEEL SO LIGHT-HEADED...
THIS IS THE FIRST TIME I'VE EVER... EXPERIENCED A MOUTH-TO-MOUTH WINE TASTING...
B... BUT... IT SUITS A... ROMANÉE-CONTI OF A... LADY...
....LADY... LA...FY...
WINE...?
SNOOORE
PLEH. THAT WAS CLOSE.
COUGH COUGH
NICE JOB. NOW IT'S YOUR TURN, MOUTON.
GOT IT.

SHALL WE CONTINUE ON WITH THINGS AS THEY WERE...?
CATHE-RINE?
ALL RIGHT. LET'S MOVE TO THE NEXT ACT, THEN.
ARE YOU READY, LAFITTÉ?
YOUR VOICE IS EXACTLY THE SAME, TOO. GROSS.
TURN
Oh. Kay.
NO THANK YOU.

OUI.
RAHMAN FELL INTO THE DEADLY TRAP OF MARGOT'S CHARMS! ON THE NEXT LE VIN, WINE BURGLAR, WE GAMBLE ON A DISGUISE?!
LE VIN, WINE BURGLAR MISSION 3/END
THE STORY CONTINUES WITH CARD ILLUSION